

Project Title and Purpose Statement

Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice (DWEJ), the East Michigan Environmental Action Council (EMEAC) and Green Door Initiative (GDI) request support for a collaborative initiative entitled, *Engaging Communities in the Development and Implementation of Environmental Policy for the City of Detroit*.

We are a team of three organizations with strong ties to the community that aims to assist the Detroit Buildings, Safety Engineering and Environmental Department in meeting requirements, under its current charter, to “[d]evelop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive environmental policy for the City of Detroit” (City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sections 6-502, 6-503, 6-509). During and as a result of this process, we will build local capacity of Detroit, Michigan communities (all zip codes), business leaders, and elected officials to require or include health and environmental impact assessments as part of policy and budgetary decisions.

At the close of the two year project period, we will have engaged multiple stakeholders -- including residents, business leaders, elected officials and the academic community -- in the creation of a comprehensive city-wide environmental policy and a set of tools that they can use to assess health and environmental impacts of all policies and practices. Specifically our goals include:

1. To help develop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive environmental policy for the City of Detroit that positions city officials to meet the requirements of the revised city charter and that reflects contributions by residents, business leaders, government officials and the local academic community.
2. To create and disseminate tools that stakeholders can use to assess the health and environmental impacts of the comprehensive environmental policy.

Our efforts will serve as a means to leverage, amplify and build upon ongoing campaigns in the city, such as the Detroit Environmental Agenda, Detroit Climate Action Collaborative, Our Power: Uniting Communities for a Just Transition Campaign and efforts to prepare a trained green labor force. Each partner in this project brings unique skills, history and philosophical perspectives that will elevate the importance of and show the way forward on how Detroit can become an international leader on these issues.

Project Partners

The organizations applying for the Collaborative grant include: Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice, East Michigan Environmental Action Council and Green Door Initiative. Additional partners, whose MOAs are included with this application include: Dr. Barbara Israel, Director of Detroit Urban Research Center; Nick Schroeck, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center; David Tulauskas, Sustainability Director, General Motors Company; Margaret Weber, Convener, Zero Waste Detroit Coalition; Dr. Monica White, Assistant Professor of Environmental Justice, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Environmental Statutes

As mentioned above, our group will work with stakeholders to develop a sustainability plan that supports Detroit in fulfilling the terms of the revised charter. Toward that end, the plan will include sections with language that calls for goals and benchmarks that are indicated in - but not limited by - the table below.

Table 1: Sustainability Plan Aims by EPA Environmental Statutes

Sustainability Plan	EPA Environmental Statutes
Research will be needed to inform language for the protection and conservation of land, water and air resources (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-503, Par. 3), as well as to work with public and private agencies and organizations on methods for eliminating or reducing land, air and water pollution (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-503, Par. 9)	Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3) Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)
In honoring the economic and equity pillars of the plan (see Project Description below), language for the remediation, redevelopment and reuse of contaminated land sites in the city (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-503, Par. 6) will include policies that address and mitigate the impacts of toxic substances on underground water systems.	Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(c)(3) Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)
To encourage and promote innovative and competitively viable sustainable economic development in the City of Detroit consistent with protection of the environment (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-503, Par. 7), we will be concerned with improving air quality, controlling air pollution and reducing the use of toxic substances in development.	Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3) Toxic Substances Control Act, Section 10(a)
The plan will rely on research to develop and disseminate toolkits to stakeholders on the necessity and methods for pollution prevention and energy savings (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-503, Par. 10) that lead to the reduction of air pollution.	Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3)
One of the aims of the project is to inform the creation of a comprehensive city-wide Green Initiatives and Technologies plan that may include alternative and renewable energy production; alternative fuels; green	Clean Air Act, Section 103(b)(3) Clean Water Act, Section 104(b)(3) Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(c)(3)

public works and technologies (Detroit City Charter Article 6, Chapter 5, Sec. 6-509).	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Information about the Affected Community

Detroit is a city attempting to climb its way out of an economic crisis that put residents in very difficult financial circumstances and deepened the impact of environmental and social injustices. While city officials have sought to work with foundations, business leaders and large non-profit organizations to improve the economic vitality of the city, often the voices of residents has been overlooked or excluded from the idea-generating and decision-making processes. With this project, our group seeks to develop a model for and practice of engaging community members -- particularly those most impacted by environmental injustices -- in the process of developing environmental policy and pathways for its concrete implementation for the city of Detroit. Specifically, we seek to address the following needs:

- Need for authentic community engagement: From information sharing to idea generation to drafting of recommended environmental policy, our team will engage multiple stakeholders, with a particular emphasis on those who live near and are impacted by air, water and soil pollution.
- Need for infrastructure for multi-stakeholder engagement in development of city-wide policy: In the course of carrying out this important work, our group will develop structures and processes that city officials and others can use to engage impacted communities in decisions that impact them.
- Need for multi-stakeholder support in helping the City of Detroit to meet the requirements of the charter: Developing and effectively implementing a coordinated and comprehensive environmental policy for Detroit requires the input and efforts of experts, citizens, economic leaders and others concerned about the health of people and the environment. We aim to pull people together for this purpose, leveraging key relationships, as well as past and current work, including the Detroit Environmental Agenda (convened by multiple stakeholders city-wide) and the Detroit Climate Action Plan, convened by Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice.
- Need for tools: The project will also address the need for stakeholders to have tools they can use to assess the health and environmental impacts of the comprehensive environmental policy that will come from this process, as well as proposed policies in the future. .

Characteristics of Affected Community

Detroit is Michigan's largest city with a population of 713,000 according to the 2010 census. Decades of industrial disinvestments have left the city impoverished and a veritable crux of environmental contamination and hazardous waste in the state of Michigan. According to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Detroit is home to 23% of reported combined on-site toxic releases and transfers as well as 10.3 % (24 out of 234) of the state's Hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities. Considering that the minority population of the state is 19.8% as of 2000, while the minority population within the city of Detroit is 87.7%, a direct correlation can be made to some serious environmental justice issues. Among the most racially

segregated urban areas in the country, Detroit residents are exposed to environmental hazards and have decreased access to social and structural supports (e.g., jobs, stores, and recreation areas) that are linked to health outcomes. These characteristics vary across neighborhoods, with Detroit's eastside (more than 95% African American) and southwest (housing the majority of the city's Latino residents) neighborhoods having older housing stock and poor environmental conditions, and poor quality food environments on the eastside. Morbidity and mortality rates in Detroit are considerably higher than national rates, and are particularly high in some of the most economically challenged areas of the city. There is an accumulating body of research which elucidates that childhood illnesses such as childhood asthma, lead poisoning, cancer, etc. are caused and/or exacerbated by exposures to risk factors found within the built, physical, and social, environments.¹ It is recognized that the impact of such environmental health burdens go beyond just the child and their family and affects the entire community through poor performance in schools, higher dropout rates and less employable young people.

Disproportionate Impacts

Detroit is Michigan's largest city with a population of 713,000 according to the 2010 census. Decades of industrial disinvestments have left the city impoverished and a veritable crux of environmental contamination and hazardous waste in the state of Michigan. According to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Detroit is home to 23% of reported combined on-site toxic releases and transfers as well as 10.3 % (24 out of 234) of the state's Hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facilities. Considering that the minority population of the state is 19.8% as of 2000, while the minority population within the city of Detroit is 87.7%, a direct correlation can be made to some serious environmental justice issues. The rate of unemployment is 7.1%, almost twice the state average.

Organization's Historical Connection to the Affected Community

As indicated above, three organizations will collaborate on this project: Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice (DWEJ), the East Michigan Environmental Action Council (EMEAC) and Green Door Initiative (GDI). Each organization has strong ties to various Detroit communities and the multiple stakeholder groups that will be engaged in the project.

Involvement with Affected Community

DWEJ, founded in 1994, is dedicated to improving the environmental and economic health in metro Detroit. DWEJ envisions Detroit as the global model of a vibrant urban center where all

¹ Pickett, K.E., Pearl, M (2001). "Multilevel Analyses of Neighbourhood Socioeconomic Context And Health Outcomes: A Critical Review." *J Epidemiol Community Health* 55(2):111-22; O'Neill, M.S., M. Jerrett, Et Al. (2003). "Health, Wealth, And Air Pollution: Advancing Theory And Methods." *Environ Health Perspect* 111(16): 1861-70; Payne-Sturges, D., Gee, G.C. (2006). "National Environmental Health Measures for Minority And Low-Income Populations: tracking Social Disparities In Environmental Health." *Environ Res* 102(2); Schootman, M., Andresen, E.M., Wolinsky, F.D.I., Malmstrom, T.K., Miller, J.P., Miller, D.K. (2007). "Neighbourhood environment around the incidence of depressive symptoms among middle-aged African Americans." *J Epidemiol community Health* 61 (6): 527-32.

thrive in environmental, economic and social health. DWEJ champions local and national collaboration to advance environmental justice and sustainable redevelopment and fosters clean, healthy and safe communities through innovative policy, education and workforce initiatives. In a city that includes five of the top-ten most-polluted zip codes in the state, DWEJ is a voice for cleaner, safer, healthier neighborhoods. DWEJ is dedicated to providing all Detroit residents with the tools they need to play an increasingly meaningful role in the decision-making process regarding environmental concerns in their own neighborhoods. DWEJ isn't seeking to simply redistribute environmental harms, but to abolish them.

GDI, established in 2010, is a Detroit based 501c3 not for profit organization. Our mission is to ensure that everyone is environmentally literate and capable of promoting and living a sustainable lifestyle. We have successfully served Detroit by providing a successful job training program since 2011. Resulting in training and assisting with job placement for 120 hard to employ residents. Additionally, we have reached over 1500 residents providing general awareness regarding environmental justice, community based participatory research and youth leadership development. Finally, we have worked with others locally to achieve effective public policy that improves the quality of life for those impacted disproportionately by pollution.

EMEAC began in the late 1960s in response to environmental concerns in Southeast Michigan. A cornerstone of *EMEAC*'s formation was the belief that informing the public and engaging them in addressing environmental issues would lead to solutions to environmental problems. *EMEAC* has a proven track record working in the legislature, in the courts, in township halls and in schools to protect air and water quality, wetlands, natural areas, farmlands and wildlife. We provide legislative and regulatory advocacy, public information and environmental education opportunities throughout southeast Michigan. *EMEAC* coordinates school environmental education programs from elementary to high school levels. We work to improve the quality of life, health and the built environment of low-income, people of color most impacted by pollution in Detroit and the surrounding area through equitable environmental policy. We work to end Environmental Racism: policy decisions that disproportionately and negatively impact low-income, and people of color communities.

Community as Decision-Maker

The Detroit Environmental Agenda steering committee, convened by *DWEJ*, conducted a citywide survey of environmental issues that generated nearly 500 resident responses. DEA members reached out to neighborhood associations, block clubs, and other community based organizations to share environmental conditions in Detroit, primarily around the health impacts of lead, industrial pollution, and water infrastructure. The survey responses collected through this outreach shaped the Detroit Environmental Agenda report and voter guide. *DWEJ* also led a team of volunteers to knock on over 1000 doors in two Detroit neighborhoods to share the DEA voter guide and encourage residents to vote in the upcoming elections.

Although *GDI* is a relatively new organization its leadership is not new to the issue of environmental justice and meaningful community engagement. Spanning more than two decades of addressing the issues of disproportionate burdens of pollution *GDI*'s leadership continues to

link the work of Green Door with the urgent need to address equity. To that end the work of Green Door has focused on ensuring that grassroots community members become knowledgeable and active in environmental decision making. Our Community Health Awareness program provides education, awareness and technical assistance to community members. We have reached more than 1500 residents in Detroit over the past two years. Once trained community members create Neighborhood Environmental Profiles. These profiles provide a baseline of knowledge about specific environmental issues residents face on a daily basis. This information allows them to present their concerns to decision-makers ultimately allowing them to make much needed change in their community. They possess the knowledge to present information to the City Council, Local Emergency Planning Committee and other decision-makers. In 2012 GDI trained community residents active with the Lower Eastside Action Plan (LEAP) who as a result have created a Detroit Green Zone Development Plan for their neighborhood. Their leadership provides an example for other neighborhoods in Detroit to follow suit.

EMEAC has engaged community members in different ways throughout its long history. One of the key ways in recent history has been in the area of youth engagement and youth/young adult leadership development. The Young Educators Alliance (YEA) is a group of students, youth and young adults who meet regularly to identify issues in their environment and work collectively on solutions. Since the group's formation in 2012, YEA members have identified several environmental injustices that they then studied, informed and engaged community in dialogue around them and collectively developed strategies for addressing. In December 2012, they held community dialogue around access to quality foods, the role the environment and environmental injustices play in impacting access and strategies that families could employ for meeting their food needs. In the spring of 2013, YEA co-coordinated an intergenerational community education series -- called *Universidad Sin Fronteras* -- in which they and 25 participants between 14 - 65 years of age discussed the ecological and socially destabilizing impacts of rapid gentrification they were observing in several Detroit communities. Currently, YEA members serve on a planning team for an "Our Power" gathering, which will take place in June. The gathering will bring together mostly Detroit-area students and young adults from working class, indigenous and people of color communities impacted by environmental injustices to participate in strategic conversations on how to strengthen their leadership in the environmental and climate movements, while planning for such participation.

Capacity and On-Going Relationships with Community

DWEJ, already recognized as a national leader, connecting environmental justice issues with key policy makers, *DWEJ* is positioned to become a national model for environmental justice best practices and success. The depth and breadth of environmental challenges in Detroit create a unique opportunity for *DWEJ* to implement and refine advocacy strategies and programs that could be replicated in communities with similar challenges. We continue to build diverse and meaningful coalitions that are dedicated to effectively addressing the environmental challenges that have plagued low-income and minority communities for far too long. Our program addresses environmental justice from a holistic perspective, which focuses on our three goals: Reduced environmental health hazards, Sustainable redevelopment, Economic vitality. We have developed several initiatives to meet these goals, including our Green Job Training Program, the Detroit

Environmental Agenda and the Detroit Climate Action Collaborative. All of these projects have been collaborative efforts focused on creating a more sustainable Detroit. DWEJ's far-reaching initiatives, programs, and collaborations touch the lives of all Detroit residents and provide lasting benefits to our communities, improving our quality of life for generations to come.

Through GDI's Community Health Awareness Program (CHAP) we have interacted with more than 1500 residents throughout Detroit. Once completion of the training takes place, each neighborhood group creates an environmental baseline assessment, documenting environmental conditions and defining mitigation strategies that are presented to various decision making bodies. GDI maintains relationships with the residents by providing Technical Assistance that helps to create change in their community. The goal is to collect baseline assessments for every corner of the city utilizing a PhotoVoice approach. This approach creates a Geographic Information Systems document that allows for a ground level view of the neighborhood environmental needs. Residents are the custodians of these plans while GDI serves as a clearinghouse that stores the neighborhood data. GDI also serves as a resource to the community by staying abreast of the most relevant public health and environmental information. For example, we serve on the Community Outreach and Education Core (COEC) with the University of Michigan. The COEC serves as a resource to increase awareness and understanding of environmental health research, and to further scientific collaboration among University of Michigan environmental health researchers and the communities involved. We assist with translation of technical information and share that with community members.

EMEAC is one of many groups that have helped to increase the capacity of Detroiters to address local environmental issues. Key work that will be mentioned here includes coalitions and youth leadership development. Since 2010, EMEAC has been particularly committed to participating in and assuming leadership roles, where appropriate, in coalitions. Doing so reflects the belief and understanding that meaningful and long-term change comes from the collaborative (combined, cumulative) work of many and not simply efforts of an individual group. EMEAC is actively engaged in several local, statewide and national coalitions. Additionally, EMEAC's practice of helping to cultivate leadership among youth and young adults is another way we are working to increase the capacity of the community to address environmental and climate concerns. Avenues for youth leadership development include, but are not limited to: internship program that hosts between 15-20 students per year; weekly classes and workshops in schools, community centers and conferences that reaches between 150-200 youth per year; Young Educator's Alliance, with consistent participation of 10 in the twice weekly meetings; and Gardening, Activism, Media Education (GAME) summer camp that serves 10-15 youth per summer.

Project Description

Description of Activities for 2-Year Project Period

As mentioned above, our group aims to engage multiple stakeholder groups in the process of developing and working with city officials to implement a coordinated and comprehensive environmental policy for the City of Detroit. In addition, we will develop a set of tools that these stakeholders can use to assess the health and environmental impacts of these and future policies.

The project will stand on three pillars: economic, equity and environment. Within each pillar, our group will work with key stakeholders to identify specific themes, goals and benchmarks toward the creation of the policy. The *economic pillar* is concerned with balancing health of people and the environment with economic growth of the city that is sorely needed given the current economic climate. The *equity pillar* governs human health impacts and environmental justice that concern many Detroit residents. The *environment pillar* concerns air, water and land quality, as well as the health of local ecosystems.

Table 2: Major Project Activity by EPA Collaborative Problem Solving Element

Time Frame	Major Activities (CPS Element)*
Preparation	Coordinating team and partners meet to revise work plan, commitments and expectations and set meeting schedule (Element 4, 6)
	Develop co-sponsoring and co-planning relationships with stakeholder groups; begin scheduling stakeholder meetings (Element 2)
0-6 months	Schedule meetings on dates, times and in locations accessible and appropriate to each stakeholder group (Element 6)
	Convene informational meetings with stakeholder groups re: project goals and outcomes, process the important role they play in this process (Element 1, 2)
7-12 months	Schedule and convene stakeholder discussions around creation of the policy recommendations (Element 2, 3, 5)
	Compile and summarize/synthesize conversations
	Draft plan
	Draft toolkits for stakeholders
13-18 months	Schedule and convene report outs on draft plan to stakeholder groups; make revisions based upon additional input
	Meet with city officials to discuss direction of draft plan
19-24 months	Produce final sustainability plan
	Finalize, publish and disseminate toolkits to stakeholder groups
	Move through City Council and Mayor's office
	Schedule press release and other media to announce the release and availability of plan
	Evaluate efforts, generate lessons learned and best practices (Element 7)

**Note: Reports and EPA meetings have not been incorporated into this plan, but will be included in the revised one.*

The project will meet the stated goals by developing a detailed, comprehensive work plan and systematically carrying out the activities according to the established and agreed upon timeframe. Further, we will carry out formative and summative assessments to ensure that we are constantly understanding what works and what doesn't with regards to each phase of this project. The community as a whole will benefit from participating in the process in the following ways:

- *Engaging in visioning and goal setting:* Residents and other stakeholder groups will participate in the development of a comprehensive environmental policy for Detroit.

Informational and working meetings will be scheduled with each stakeholder group so that they can identify goals, discuss issues that should be addressed by environmental policy, and suggest language for such policy. These efforts will build upon previous knowledge and work.

- *Building community leadership and capacity:* Our team will work with stakeholders to identify and address information needs so that they can meaningfully and fully participate in this process. Because developing tools for future assessment of environmental policy is one of the goals, we will educate stakeholders about the health impact assessments (HIA) model. HIA process not only assesses the likely implications of proposed policies, but it helps identify recommendations for shaping and enhancing proposed policies in order to maximize health and equity. If done correctly, HIA will intentionally support the leadership and participation of community members, particularly historically disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, in decision-making processes that impact their lives as well as other stakeholders.
- *Building consensus and resolving disputes:* As our team begins to build relationships and work with different stakeholder groups, we will collectively generate a process for making agreements and decisions. In addition, because we anticipate having multiple meetings with each group and that not all the groups will meet with one another, our team will collaborate on a process for merging agreements/decisions from the different groups.
- *Leveraging partnerships and resources:* There has already been a tremendous amount of work happening in Detroit that involves multi-stakeholder participation. The relationships and work will be leveraged to inform the current project so that we honor what has been done, while not duplicating previous efforts.
- *Constructively engaging relevant stakeholders:* The stakeholder groups we will engage include residents, business leaders, government representatives, non-profit organizations and research/academic institutions. We believe that the combined experiences, expertise and knowledge of these groups will make for a rich and comprehensive set of policy recommendations that will give strength to each pillar - economic, equity and environment.
- *Effectively managing to produce results:* The team we have assembled to move this work forward each bring unique skills, history and philosophical perspectives that will elevate the importance of and show the way forward on how Detroit can become an international leader on these issues.

As a result of participating in this engaging 2-year process, the capacity of all stakeholders -- particularly those most impacted by environmental injustices -- will be increased in a couple of key ways. For one, the City of Detroit will have a model for engaging communities in future policy development and decision-making. Secondly, residents will have the tools to hold city government officials accountable to their communities.

Working Together

The organizations collaborating on the development of the proposal - DWEJ, EMEAC and GDI - will work together to plan, implement and evaluate the overall project. Over the summer, we will meet to further develop a detailed work plan that maps out each person's roles, responsibilities and expectations. Further, we will agree upon and document our process for meeting, making decisions and resolving disagreements.

The partners for whom Memoranda of Understanding have been submitted, already work with one or more of the collaborating members on other initiatives, campaigns and community projects. Their professional expertise, resources, support and guidance will be drawn upon in bi-monthly meetings that allow them to raise questions, suggest improvements and make recommendations reflective of their knowledge base and networks.

- *Nicholas Schroeck* serves as Executive Director of the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center. The GLELC was founded to protect the world's greatest freshwater resource and the communities that depend upon it. Based in Detroit, it has a board and staff of dedicated and innovative environmental attorneys to address our most pressing environmental challenges. Current projects include addressing climate change in Detroit, stopping the spread of aquatic invasive species, transitioning to clean energy, implementing the Great Lakes Compact and reforming water law. As a partner, Mr. Schroeck will serve as an important resource on environmental research and policymaking.
- *David Tulauskas*, Director of Sustainability, General Motors Company. In that role, he leads efforts to further embed sustainability into GM's business through activities such as goal setting and sustainability reporting. As a partner, Mr. Tulauskas will participate and advise on the development and implementation of short- and long-term mitigation strategies to create resilient businesses throughout Detroit.
- *Margaret Weber*, Convener of Zero Waste Detroit Coalition. ZWD is a coalition of 12 organizations (of which DWEJ, GDI and EMEAC are members) working to replace incineration with resource recovery options like recycling. She founded Rosedale Recycles, a recycling drop off center on Detroit's west side. As a partner, Ms. Weber will leverage her knowledge, experience and work about energy and economic development to support the efforts of the coalition.
- *Dr. Monica White*, Assistant Professor of Environmental Justice, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research engages communities of color and grassroots organizations that are involved in the development of sustainable community food systems as a strategy to respond to issues of hunger and food inaccessibility. Dr. White will serve as an important resource on environmental justice and stakeholder equity.

Organizational Capacity and Programmatic Capability

Each of the organizations possess the capacity to successfully collaborate on the coordination and administrative oversight of this grant. As mentioned above, they will work together to ensure that the project is well planned, implemented and evaluated in a timely manner and that budget oversight will be tightly managed. Details for each are provided below.

For 20 years, *DWEJ* has received funding from both public and private funding sources to support projects ranging from our green job training program and youth development to advocacy and community engagement. Our Program Managers regularly meet to discuss grant progress and outcomes. The Executive Director and financial manager work very closely with the Program Managers to ensure that grant requirements are successfully fulfilled in a timely manner. Regularly, our Financial Manager works closely with the auditor to ensure that our financial records are accurate and our company is operating in an efficient manner. For the past several years, we have been consistent in raising revenue to continue in and strengthen our operations.

GDI has organizational and financial capacity to manage federal projects. Since its inception in 2010 *GDI* has been a sub-recipient of funds from the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)- Minority Worker Training project in collaboration with the Deep South Center for Environmental Justice at Dillard University and the Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training at the University of Cincinnati- NIEHS Hazardous Waste Worker Training Project. Additionally, we successfully executed an Environmental Job Training program as a sub-recipient of the Community Development Block Grant with the City of Detroit 2012.

EMEAC has successfully managed grants, ensuring the attainment of goals and outcomes, satisfying reporting requirements, and improving subsequent programming as a result of a systematic evaluation process. Its financial management system contains checks and balances between the Financial Director, Co-Directors and the Board Treasurer. We conduct audits every year, have necessary financial policies and protocols in place that ensure budget transparency and track time spent on projects. We use quickbooks to log expenses and create monthly budget versus actual reports for each program and for *EMEAC*'s Board of Directors to review. Our Board Treasurer and Co-Directors oversee all financial activity.

Successful Management of Past Projects

Each of the applicant organizations has successfully managed similar projects in the past. *DWEJ* partnered with several Detroit-based environmental groups to create the Detroit Environmental Agenda, which raises awareness about the role that a healthy environment plays in a vibrant and prosperous city. The collaborative group conducted a citywide environmental issues survey, published a thirty-page report on Detroit's environmental conditions and policy recommendations to address them, and published a voter guide for the city's 2013 mayoral and council elections. In addition, *DWEJ* convenes the Detroit Climate Action Collaborative, which is in the process of developing a Climate Action Plan for the City.

GDI has managed similar projects beginning with its inception in 2010. It has leveraged several projects as a sub-recipient of two five year cycle grants with the University of Cincinnati and Dillard University with funding through the National Institutes of Environmental Sciences (NIEHS). We are midway through the fourth year of both projects and poised to seek continued funding for another five year cycle. Additionally, we have managed a Community Development Block Grant with the City of Detroit's Neighborhood Opportunity Fund. Finally, we have managed a Department of Labor grant. Each of the projects have allowed us to train residents for employment in the environmental sector and/or provide environmental awareness and technical assistance at the community level.

The East Michigan Environmental Action Council has successfully managed similar projects in the past, some of which are shared here. *EMEAC* was the sub-award fiscal agent for a \$2.1 million federal grant under the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program. We are a sub-grantee of a multi-year Child Health Incubator Project, which aims to reduce childhood obesity by healthy foods and lifestyles. *EMEAC* is in the 2nd and final year of a Ford Foundation collaborative arts grant, for which we collaborated with several youth serving arts organization to provide place-

based learning opportunities on social and environmental justice issues to youth and young adults.

Plans to Successfully Manage Proposed Project

The coordinating team - DWEJ, EMEAC and GDI - will meet biweekly for the first 3 months and monthly thereafter to oversee the implementation of the work plan. Meetings will include assessment of how the project is going, reporting on agreed upon tasks and identifying new issues, concerns and/or matters of attention. Of the 3 groups, EMEAC will serve as the fiscal agent and will provide staff to serve as Project Manager. The PM will serve as the unifying thread for all the areas of work and – in addition to responsibilities and expectations that each collaborating member will assume – will be responsible for attending required EPA meetings, as well as preparing and submitting all necessary reports.

Experience to Successfully Attain Goals

Each of the applicant organizations has a strong track record of successfully attaining organizational goals. Though DWEJ, GDI and EMEAC differ in management styles and organizational structure, all are similar in that they set up systems for the development, monitoring and evaluation of initiatives, projects and program areas. Each ensures that reports are prepared and submitted to stakeholders and funders in a timely manner. In terms of administrative oversight, each organization is led by an executive leadership body that is accountable to a board of directors, engages in strategic planning and budgeting processes, and undergoes annual audits.

Recipient of Past EPA Awards

DWEJ has received an EPA grant within the last 5 years. We were able to successfully meet the grant requirements in a timely manner. Our progress was tracked through quarterly and an annual report, as required by the grant. The Program Officer was Linda Morgan, Region 5.

GDI has not been a direct recipient of EPA and/or other Federal grant agreements in the last five years. We have received grants as a sub-recipient from NIEHS, HUD and DOL in recent years.

EMEAC received and served as fiduciary of a 2-year federal grant under the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program. Contract and Grant Administrator: Karen Rich. Sub-award number: RC061577EMEAC

Qualifications of the Project Manager

DWEJ, GDI and EMEAC will collectively manage the project. Our groups have been working together over the past 1.5 years as part of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition (MEJC). We three are members of the MEJC and serve on its management team. Therefore we have experience working with one another in a collaborative manner, setting and attaining goals, planning and coordinating initiatives, making decisions and resolving disagreements and managing budgets. Each of the applying organizations brings to this collective, a unique set of skills, history and philosophical perspectives that combined, will make for a strong and impactful

project.

We've agreed that Dr. Ife Kilimanjaro, Co-Director of EMEAC will serve as the Project Manager, to ensure that the work moves forward in a coherent manner. Project related experience includes:

- *Documentation and Evaluation:* Experience in this area is extensive and includes creating systems of continuous evaluation that include formative and summative components for which she has often designed measurement instruments; coordinating self-studies for local organizations; coordinating focus groups with parents and youth on views on charter schools; and designing research process diagrams for multiple clients and employers.
- *Project and Grants Management:* Dr. Kilimanjaro has extensive experience writing and managing grants – large and small, public and private, and at the local, state, and federal levels – and successfully meeting stated goals and objectives. In 2009 she wrote and was awarded a \$160,000 federally funded grant – through the Michigan Department of Education – to develop a strong proposal for a charter school (MDE Charter School Planning and Implementation Sub-Grant). She coordinated all project activities, working closely with members of the Planning and Implementation team, accountant and auditor. Dr. Kilimanjaro met with MDE officials and prepared all required reports. Since 2010, she has prepared about 40% of the grant proposals for EMEAC and all grant proposals for Alkebu-lan Village between 2010-2013.
- *Communication:* Communicating with and reporting to stakeholders is essential to the life of an institution: it makes relationship-building possible and promotes accountability. In most of the places Dr. Kilimanjaro has worked and volunteered, she created or strengthened systems of communication. For Timbuktu Academy (TAST) and the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, she created their first websites so that members of their respective communities could access information easily. At TAST she also created standardized process for communicating with families, staff, the Board of Directors and other agencies to which we reported.
- *Collaboration:* As a general practice Dr. Kilimanjaro establishes leadership teams to foster shared decision-making, which I have found leads to higher morale, a more collaborative culture, greater accountability and productivity and desired results. For example, at TAST, she created a multi-tiered system of leadership that provided opportunities for teachers, staff, volunteers and parents have a voice in how the school operated. As Board Secretary of DBCFSN, she helped to successfully transition of the organization from a small self-funded organization to one that now receives over \$400,000 from external sources per year.

Dr. Kilimanjaro currently works alongside community members as convener of the Detroit Climate Justice Alliance, member of the Equitable Detroit Coalition, and leadership body and general member of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition. She is well respected by grassroots activists and organization leaders throughout the city.

Past Performance in Reporting on Outputs and Outcomes

List of Similar Grants or Cooperative Agreements

EMEAC has not received or managed a grant of similar size, scope and relevance to the proposed project. We have received a grant of a similar size within the past three years, but it has no

relevance to the grant for which we are applying here. For all grants received, EMEAC prepares and submits reports according to funder requirements.

GDI has not received or managed a grant of similar size, scope and relevance to the proposed project. We have received several grants of similar size within the past three years, but it has no relevance to the grant for which we are applying here. It is important to note, however, that GDI provides monthly progress reports to all of its funding sources. Staff have met or exceeded their projected goals and maintain those records electronically and in hard copy for review.

The Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb
Family Foundation
Funding Title: State of
Environment – Detroit, Grant
#519.01
Amount: \$40,000
Point of Contact: Jodee Raines

DWEJ partnered with Ecoworks Detroit, Michigan Environmental Council, Zero Waste Detroit, Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, Recycle HERE, Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision, Southwest Community Benefits Alliance, and Data Driven Detroit to lead the Detroit Environmental Agenda to raise awareness about the role that a healthy environment plays in a vibrant and prosperous city. Our collaborative group conducted a citywide environmental issues survey, published a thirty-

page report on Detroit’s environmental conditions and policy recommendations to address them, and published a voter guide for the city’s 2013 mayoral and council elections.

DWEJ has received several grants of similar scope and relevance. The Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition (MEJC) consists of more than 15 organizations and individuals who are focused on creating solutions to the negative societal impacts of pollution and how existing policies and standard business practices affect our health, manifest racial injustice, and inhibit economic vitality for the masses.

The Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb
Family Foundation
Title: State-Wide Environmental
Justice Campaign, Grant #521
Amount: \$90,000
Point of Contact: Jodee Raines

The coalition is working to develop environmental justice policy guidelines with the State of Michigan and to ensure the implementation of Michigan’s Environmental Justice Plan. As MEJC works to facilitate the integration of environmental justice into government policies, we are committed to making sure that all such policies adopted by the state ensure the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards for everyone, and that each resident of every community realizes the same environmental benefits and has equal access to the decision-making process. This is being accomplished by developing a statewide environmental justice advocacy network.

Finally, DWEJ leads the Detroit Climate Action Collaborative (DCAC), which supports the city of Detroit by identifying short- and long-term actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By providing expert advice on the most credible, aggressive, and economically viable targets and developing a comprehensive climate action plan, DWEJ and the DCAC help to prepare Detroit residents for environmental change. DCAC is a grassroots effort comprised of environmental, academic, research, community, government, business, and volunteer partners.

Urban Research Center Title of funding: Small Planning Grant Program to support the “Detroit Climate Action Collaborative Climate Change Action Plan” Amount: \$2,500 Primary Community Contact: Julia Weinert	The Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation (renewal grant) Title of funding: Grassroots Organizing 2012/2013, Grant #12-0500 Amount: \$75,000 Point of Contact: Jodee Raines
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds

A process to ensure that grant funds are expended in a timely manner will be implemented and monitored. Its components include:

1. Development of a broad 2-year and detailed quarterly work plans that includes appropriate budgetary allocations;
2. Contracts will be prepared for each collaborating organization (sub-contractor) – DWEJ and GDI – that explicitly identifies expectations, timeframe, and amount awarded;
3. Invoices will be processed monthly according to EMEAC policy and procedures;
4. Accompanying each invoice will be a detailed description of activities with the amount of time taken to carry them out; and
5. Collaborating organizations will meet monthly to report on and discuss activities, anticipated expenses and more.

Quality Assurance Project Plan Information

This project will involve the use of existing environmental data.